

RECYCLING DATA FOR STATE AGENCIES & COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES

The S.C. Solid Waste Policy and Management Act (Act) – signed into law on May 27, 1991 – is the state's first comprehensive law on solid waste management and sets recycling and disposal goals. It also requires local governments to track materials recycled and to report to the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control's (DHEC) Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling (Office).

The Act was amended on October 3, 2000 requiring state agencies as well as state-supported colleges and universities to submit to DHEC an annual report detailing their recycling programs and provide a list of products – purchased during the previous fiscal year (FY) – containing recycled materials.

The Office is responsible for compiling and reviewing data from these reports and publishing the "State Agencies/Colleges & Universities Recycling & Buy Recycled Annual Report" by November 1 each year. This annual report provides information for FY06, reflecting activities from July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006.

In addition to summarizing the information reported, the Act also requires the Office to determine what percentage of state purchases contain recycled materials and include this information in the report. Unfortunately, such an effort is not possible because a system is not in place for tracking the amount of dollars spent on buying recycled products. There have been discussions (and attempts made) with the S.C. Budget and Control Board's Materials Management Office (MMO) to measure this effort, but currently vendors are not required to report on individual items under a contract. Instead, they provide data on overall contract usage (which in most cases, would include items other than those made from recycled materials). Therefore, a specific dollar amount cannot be calculated at this time.

To compensate for not having a tracking mechanism, the Office, in years past, had asked for estimates on the total dollar expenditures towards recycled

content products and services. But without a quantifiable way to measure such activities, the number isn't an accurate reflection on what is taking place at the agency and college/university level. Because of that, the Office asked this year for respondents to report on what is purchased (instead of how much) and, not surprisingly, many schools and agencies reported buying recycled content copy paper, bathroom paper products, toner and inkjet cartridges as well as business cards and stationary.

Staff is working closely with MMO so that future state contracts require the procurement of recycled content products when feasible. For example, plastic trash can liners and bathroom paper products currently on state contract are made from recycled materials. Staff also is working with MMO to allow for the procurement of certain paper products in recycled content only – instead of offering a choice between virgin and recycled. The state will continue to support the concept of "closing the loop" on recycling – that is collecting, processing and purchasing recycled materials.

In FY06, 17,646 tons of material were recycled and marketed into new products. This amount reflects a decrease of less than 2 percent from FY05. Despite more agencies reporting than ever before, there was a slight decrease in most categories along with a significant change in one category. The latter can be directly attributed to a one-time collection event at an agency that recycled a large amount of steel in FY05, but was not repeated in FY06. The S.C. Department of Transportation (DOT), however, reported additional recycling efforts. DOT recycled more than 240,000 tons of asphalt pavement, old sidewalks, bridge steel and concrete.

Recycling and buying recycled are important issues and have the potential to save money, conserve natural resources and protect the environment. State government and public schools have the opportunity to serve as a model to the private sector as well as the public on how this can be done.

RECYCLING DATA: **STATE AGENCIES**

Sixty-one state agencies reported recycling 8,339 tons of material. Of that amount, the No. 1 item recycled was mixed metal followed by office paper.

When it comes to buying recycled content products, 65 percent of respondents reported purchasing recycled copy paper, followed by 49 percent respondents purchasing recycled toner and/or inkjet cartridges.

S.C. State Agencies Reporting for FY06

- Accident Fund
- Administrative Law Court
- Arts Commission
- Attorney General
- Budget and Control Board
 - General Services Division (includes Capitol Complex and Capital Center)
 - Materials Management Office
 - Office of Internal Operations
 - Office of State Budget
 - Retirement Systems
 - State Data Center/CIO
- Commission for the Blind
- Commission on Indigent Defense
- Commission on Prosecution Coordination
- Comptroller General
- Department of Archives and History
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Consumer Affairs
- Department of Corrections
- Department of Education
- Department of Health and Environmental Control
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of Insurance
- Department of Juvenile Justice
- Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation
- Department of Mental Health
- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism
- Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services
- Department of Public Safety
- Department of Revenue
- Department of Social Services
- Department of Transportation
- Education Oversight Committee
- Election Commission
- Employment Security Commission
- Forestry Commission
- Human Affairs Commission
- Judicial Department
- Legislative Audit Council
- Legislative Printing, Information and Technology Systems
- Office of the Adjutant General
- Office of the State Auditor
- Patriots Point Development Authority
- Public Service Commission
- Santee Cooper
- School for the Deaf and the Blind
- Sea Grant Consortium
- Second Injury Fund
- Secretary of State
- S.C. Commission on Higher Education
- S.C. Confederate Relic Room
- S.C. Criminal Justice Academy
- S.C. Education Television
- S.C. Higher Education Tuition Grants Commission
- S.C. Housing Finance Development Authority
- S.C. Vocational Rehabilitation Department
- State Board of Technical and Comprehensive Education
- State Ethics Commission
- State Library
- State Museum
- State Ports Authority
- State Treasurer's Office

CHART 4.1: Commodities Recycled in Tons

COMMODITIES RECYCLED		STATE TOTAL
PAPER	Magazines	21.20
	Office paper	1,185.55
	Newspapers and inserts	14.12
	Corrugated cardboard	881.78
	Phone books	19.30
	Paperboard	0.05
	Other/mixed paper	74.08
PLASTIC (Bottles)	#1 PET	3.72
	#2 HDPE	8.47
	#3 Vinyl	0.10
	Other mixed/plastic bottles	5.12
PLASTIC (Film)	#2 HDPE	0.06
	#4 LDPE	0.05
	Other/mixed plastic film	3.21
METAL	Aluminum (cans, foil)	290.55
	Steel cans	150.78
	Other ferrous metals	439.45
	White goods	0.25
	Other/mixed metal	2,209.12
GLASS (Containers & Packaging)	Brown	0.18
	Clear	0.42
	Green	0.18
	Other/mixed glass	2.31
WOOD	Pallets	101.35
	Furniture and cabinets	0.26
	Other/mixed wood	178.51
YARD TRIMMINGS/FOOD SCRAPS	Grass clippings	127.60
	Food scraps	0.05
OTHER MATERIALS	Rechargeable batteries	8.25
	Antifreeze	29.35
	C&D debris	12.00
	Consumer electronics	24.15
	Cooking oil	0.01
	Fluorescent bulbs	11.23
	Lead-acid batteries	115.53
	Paint (oil or latex)	0.25
	Tires	552.43
	Toner cartridges	7.72
	Used motor oil	1,056.50
	Used oil filters	33.57
	Other*	770.21
TOTAL		8,338.98

RECYCLING DATA: COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES

Twenty-six colleges and universities reported recycling 9,307 tons of material. Of that amount, the No. 1 item recycled was construction and demolition debris followed by office paper.

When it comes to buying recycled content products, 60 percent of respondents reported purchasing recycled content copy paper, followed by 52 percent respondents purchasing recycled content bathroom supplies including toilet tissue and paper towels.

S.C. Colleges & Universities Reporting for FY06

- Aiken Technical College
- Bob Jones University
- Charleston Southern University
- The Citadel
- Clemson University
- Coastal Carolina University
- College of Charleston
- Florence-Darlington Technical College
- Francis Marion University
- Horry-Georgetown Technical College
- Lander University
- Medical University of South Carolina
- Midlands Technical College
- Newberry College
- Northeastern Technical College
- Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College
- Piedmont Technical College
- Technical College of the Lowcountry
- Trident Technical College
- University of South Carolina (USC)
- USC – Aiken
- USC – Sumter
- USC – Upstate
- Williamsburg Technical College
- Winthrop University
- York Technical College

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"The State Agencies/ Colleges and Universities Waste Reduction, Recycling and Buying Recycled Reports" for FY02 through FY05 are available at www.scdhec.gov/recycle/html/pubs.html.

CHART 4.2: Commodities Recycled in Tons

COMMODITIES RECYCLED		STATE TOTAL
PAPER	Magazines	24.10
	Office paper	2,318.00
	Newspapers and inserts	7.48
	Corrugated cardboard	721.08
	Phone books	11.90
	Paperboard	15.10
	Other/mixed paper	429.02
PLASTIC (Bottles)	#1 PET	8.22
	#2 HDPE	0.00
	#3 Vinyl	0.00
	Other mixed/plastic bottles	13.53
PLASTIC (Film)	#2 HDPE	0.00
	#4 LDPE	0.00
	Other/mixed plastic film	67.00
METAL	Aluminum (cans, foil)	10.89
	Steel cans	7.00
	Other ferrous metals	336.92
	White goods	10.00
	Other/mixed metal	218.41
GLASS (Containers & Packaging)	Brown	0.00
	Clear	1.00
	Green	1.00
	Other/mixed glass	27.10
WOOD	Pallets	72.22
	Furniture and cabinets	4.50
	Other/mixed wood	2.00
YARD TRIMMINGS/ FOOD SCRAPS	Grass clippings	755.98
	Food scraps	0.00
OTHER MATERIALS	Rechargeable batteries	0.33
	Antifreeze	0.62
	C&D debris	4,036.43
	Consumer electronics	55.97
	Cooking oil	49.88
	Fluorescent bulbs	16.60
	Lead-acid batteries	3.23
	Paint (oil or latex)	0.00
	Tires	4.09
	Toner cartridges	3.37
	Used motor oil	35.53
	Used oil filters	0.64
	Other*	38.19
TOTAL		9,307.33

* Other includes rags with solvent, diesel, paint, textiles and transmission fluid.

